

# recycling review

JUNE 2010

## FREE Recycling at Your Residence



### Good News!

Recycling service is provided at no cost for Federal Way condos, apartments, and manufactured home parks!

Recycling is easy — just put clean paper, cardboard, cans and bottles in the **blue** recycling carts or dumpsters.

We'll also provide free items to help make recycling as easy as taking out the trash:

- Reusable, durable tote bags to collect and carry recyclables.
- Flyers, posters and stickers that remind everyone what can be recycled.



- **Recycling Champion** training and resources are available to residents who qualify. **Recycling Champions** distribute guidelines, help monitor the recycling program, and answer neighbors' recycling questions.

### Recycle More – Today!

If you'd like more recycling for your residence, please let your property manager know, and also contact the City of Federal Way's Recycling Program at 253.835.2771.



### Please follow these tips for preparing recyclables the easy way:

- Put all recyclables together in one container
- Remove any liquids or residues from containers
- Please empty recyclable items from bags or boxes – loose recyclables make sorting easier

## Reducing waste is even better than recycling!

Before you buy, use or discard an item, ask yourself:

**REDUCE:** Can I buy this with less packaging?

**REUSE:** Can I or someone else use this again?

**RECYCLE:** Can I recycle this after I use it?

**BUY RECYCLED:** Can I get this item with recycled content?

### Tips for Remembering Shopping Bags:

- Store bags by the door or in vehicle.
- Write "Shopping Bags" at the top of your shopping list.
- Place shopping list, coupons and/or purse inside the bags.
- Ask children to remind you.

**Reduce and reuse before you recycle!**  
95% of a disposable water bottle's carbon footprint is made from production, transportation and storage—only 5% in disposal.

## Resources

### City of Federal Way Recycling

Assistance and resources for starting or expanding a recycling program at your complex.

[cityoffederalway.com/recycling](http://cityoffederalway.com/recycling)

253.835.2771

### Waste Management

Works with property managers for garbage and recycling account information.

[wmnorthwest.com/fedway](http://wmnorthwest.com/fedway)

800.592.9995

(translation service available)

### What Do I Do With...?

#### Recycling Database

Comprehensive local recycling database.

[www.kingcounty.gov/whatdoidowith](http://www.kingcounty.gov/whatdoidowith)

206.296.4466

### Hazardous Waste Line

Assistance with reducing and disposing of hazardous waste.

[lhwmp.org](http://lhwmp.org) • 206.296.4692

**Save Green When You Go Green.** Buy in bulk.  
There will be less packaging and it is often less expensive.

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## Composting? At Home? With Worms!?!

Wish you could compost food scraps at home, but don't have the space for a large backyard composter? There are several ways you can keep food scraps out of the garbage:



1. Consider putting a worm bin on your patio or deck. Worm bins are great for turning food scraps into rich compost. This is a fun activity for kids and adults alike! The City offers discounts on bins purchased at Oriental Garden Center (30650 Pacific Hwy S) and Northshore Ace Hardware (35419 21st Ave SW). We can also assist with setting up worm bins, troubleshooting problems and supplying "red wiggler" worms.
2. Weekly food and yard waste collection service is available for under \$10 per month. Call 800.592.9995 to sign up for curbside food scrap collection. Don't think you generate enough food scraps? Consider sharing the service with your neighbor(s). To keep others from putting garbage in your food cart, the City of Federal Way will supply locks at no charge.
3. Ask your employer, nearby friends or family if you can put your food scraps and food-soiled paper in the food and yard waste cart they use.

**IMPORTANT:  
Keep Garbage  
and Recycling  
Container Lids  
Closed**

**Closed lids:**

- Keep animals out
- Keep water out
- Decrease litter

## Recycling is Growing!

Federal Way multi-family residents now recycle more than ever! The amount of material recycled at Federal Way complexes continues to grow. The average resident now recycles 5 pounds per month. This is up from 2007 when only about 4 pounds were recycled each month per resident. On average, residents still throw away 72 pounds of trash per month. Please follow the tips in this newsletter to increase your recycling even more!



Word Game Key: Paper, Boxes, Bottles, Cans, Jars. Connect the dots

## Please Bag Garbage

### But Don't Bag Recycling!

For your safety and health, as well as that of your collector, please bag all garbage. Double bag diapers, pet litter, packing peanuts, and vacuum dust.

However, recyclables should be unbagged, so that we can easily sort them at the recycling center.



## Where Does My Recycling Go?

I sort my recycling and put it in the blue recycling container, but what happens next?

Federal Way recyclables are picked up by Waste Management trucks and taken to Waste Management's Cascade Recycling Center in Woodinville. The recyclables are loaded onto conveyor belts that move them through a series of sorting screens that use size, gravity and magnets to separate them from each other. Pre-sorters pull out garbage and scrap metal, and quality control sorters redirect materials that are not properly sorted by the screens.

The sorted newspaper, cardboard, mixed paper, plastic, steel and aluminum cans are baled and loaded into shipping containers. The containers go by truck, train and ship to markets that use them to make recycled content products. Most paper currently goes to China, where there are many plants that have been specially built to use recycled paper. Aluminum cans are 100% recyclable, and in high demand from American can manufacturers.

Finally, your recyclables go to stores as recycled content products. The next time you buy toilet tissue, paper towels, or school supplies, remember to look for "post-consumer" recycled content! Buying recycled content products keeps recycling strong and helps close the recycling loop!

For a video of this process, check out [thinkgreen.com/video-recycling-single-stream](http://thinkgreen.com/video-recycling-single-stream).

# Perplexed about Recycling Plastic?

## Forget the numbers and think shape



Is this plastic toy recyclable? **NO.**  
Even if it has "chasing arrows" imprinted on it? **NO.**

Many people check the number inside the "chasing arrows" to find out whether an item is accepted for recycling. However, those chasing arrows and numbers don't mean that there is a market that wants that item.

The number on a plastic container just designates the type of resin used to make it. Some items marked with the same number cannot be combined because they are made using different processes. For example, a #1 bottle and #1 microwaveable tray start from the same resin but are heated and molded differently. This means the less valuable tray isn't accepted by markets that want the more valuable bottles.

So forget the number. **What is the shape?** In most of King County, plastic bottles, jugs, dairy tubs and cups are accepted in the recycling container. Check [wmnorthwest.com/fedway](http://wmnorthwest.com/fedway) if you have questions about specific items.



## Community Recycling Resources

There are many alternatives to putting things in the garbage. Items such as plastic bags, Styrofoam blocks, packing peanuts, microwaves, tires, mattresses and medication can all be recycled — but they require special handling. These websites will help you find local recyclers:

- [www.kingcounty.gov/whatdoidowith](http://www.kingcounty.gov/whatdoidowith)  
206.296.4466
- [1800recycle.wa.gov](http://1800recycle.wa.gov)  
800.RECYCLE (732.9253)

Items in good condition can be sold or given away. Post an ad online for free:

- King County Online Item Exchange:  
[kingcounty.gov/exchange](http://kingcounty.gov/exchange)
- Craigslist: [seattle.craigslist.org](http://seattle.craigslist.org)
- 2Good2Toss: [2good2toss.com](http://2good2toss.com)
- The Freecycle Network: [freecycle.org](http://freecycle.org)



## Banned from Garbage & Recycling:

Some items, including medical wastes, fluorescent bulbs, needles, fuel tanks, electronics and chemicals, are considered hazardous and are not allowed in garbage or recycling. These items need to be taken to designated locations for special handling.

### Computers, Monitors & TVs

Free recycling locations:

[ecyclewashington.org](http://ecyclewashington.org) • 800.RECYCLE (732.9253)

### Cell Phones & Other Electronics

(printers, fax machines, DVD players, etc.):

[takeitbacknetwork.org](http://takeitbacknetwork.org) • 206.296.4466

**Batteries** (rechargeable, button, lead acid automobile, UPS)

- [SuperMall Wastemobile](#) (see below for details)
- [thinkgreenfromhome.com](http://thinkgreenfromhome.com)
- [call2recycle.org](http://call2recycle.org)
- [www.kingcounty.gov/whatdoidowith](http://www.kingcounty.gov/whatdoidowith)  
206.296.4466

### Compact Fluorescent "Twisty" Bulbs

- [SuperMall Wastemobile](#) (see below for details)
- [thinkgreenfromhome.com](http://thinkgreenfromhome.com)
- [pse.com/cflrecycle](http://pse.com/cflrecycle)
- [takeitbacknetwork.org](http://takeitbacknetwork.org) • 206.296.4466

**Syringes** Used needles and syringes are dangerous in garbage and recycling because they can injure or spread illness to residents, collectors, and sorters.

- Take syringes to a pharmacy
- Use Sharps by Mail —  
[wm.com/wm/services/healthcare](http://wm.com/wm/services/healthcare)

## SuperMall Wastemobile:

**Schedule:** 1st & 3rd full (Fri-Sun) weekends each month

**Hours:** Friday-Sunday • 10am-5pm

**Location:** Auburn SuperMall northwest loading dock area by Sports Authority (1101 SuperMall Way, Auburn)

**Accepted:** Solvents, batteries (lead acid, button, rechargeable), oil based paint, cleaners, pesticides, oil, antifreeze, gasoline, mercury products, fluorescent tubes/bulbs & propane tanks

**NOT Accepted:** Latex paint, empty containers, computers, TVs, alkaline batteries, explosives, asbestos, appliances, medicines, solid waste, sharps & tires

**Cost:** Free!

**More Information:** [lhwmp.org](http://lhwmp.org) • 206.296.4692

# WORD RECOGNITION KID'S

Unscramble the mixed-up words to find out what items can be recycled:

E P P A R

X E B O S

L E B O T T S

S A N C

R A S J

Answers on page 2.



## Hey, Kids (and Parents)! Try Going "Waste-Free" for Lunch!

Put items like these in a durable lunch bag or box:

- Sandwiches in reusable plastic storage containers
- Hot food or beverages in a thermos
- Drinks in reusable (or recyclable) containers like metal or plastic bottles. (Remember, drinking tap water is best for your wallet, your body and the environment!)
- Washed whole fruit (without packaging)
- Snacks purchased in bulk and put in reusable containers
- Reusable forks and spoons

Avoid items that create waste, like:

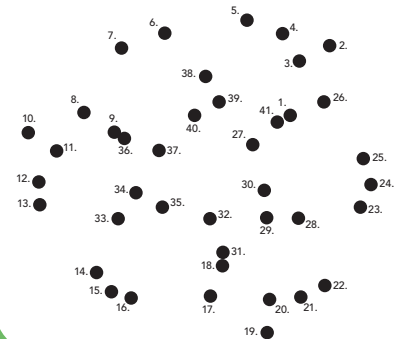
- Pre-wrapped snack portions
- Plastic bags that are not reusable
- Disposable forks and spoons
- Straws

Tell grown-ups your favorite ideas for a "waste-free" lunch, and make lunch together.



## connect the dots

Draw the symbol that represents recycling!



FWA410 MFnws1

Waste Management  
13225 NE 126 Pl, Kirkland, WA 98034  
Online 24 hrs: [wmnorthwest.com/fedway](http://wmnorthwest.com/fedway)  
Información en español  
한국어 정보  
Информация, доступная на русском языке  
CITY OF  
**Federal Way**  
City of Federal Way Recycling  
[cityoffederalway.com/recycling](http://cityoffederalway.com/recycling)  
253.835.2771



**WM recycling rewards**  
**CLEAN CART**  
**CHALLENGE**



**You and your neighbors could win a \$5 gift card each for recycling!**

This summer, Waste Management's new Clean Cart Challenge Prize Patrol will visit Federal Way to reward recyclers. A multi-family complex (apartment, condo or mobile home park) will be chosen at random each month to have their recycling checked. If the Prize Patrol finds your recycling container filled with acceptable recyclable materials, you and your neighbors will each receive a \$5 gift card. So, review the enclosed Clean Cart flyer, check your garbage and recycling containers for the proper materials and get ready to win!

Learn more about the Challenge and view a full list of what can be recycled by visiting the Waste Management website at [wmnorthwest.com/cleancartchallenge](http://wmnorthwest.com/cleancartchallenge) or by following the challenge on Facebook at [facebook.com/cleancartchallenge](http://facebook.com/cleancartchallenge).

100% postconsumer recycled content